

## Message Text

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12

ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9137

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 05743

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EG, EEC

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT

REF: STATE 144164

1. SUMMARY: FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER RAISED THE U.S. PROPOSAL FOR EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT DURING A RESTRICTED MEETING OF THE EC NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS IN LUXEMBOURG ON JUNE 24. THE DISCUSSION WAS INCONCLUSIVE, ALTHOUGH THE GERMANS AND DUTCH INDICATED THEY WERE FAVORABLY INCLINED. THE SUBJECT WILL COME UP FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT AN EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING IN ROME IN EARLY JULY. END SUMMARY.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DURING A RESTRICTED POLITICAL COOPERATION MEETING OF THE EC NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS IN LUXEMBOURG ON JUNE 24, FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER RAISED THE U.S. PROPOSAL FOR EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT. HE ASKED THE OTHER MEMBER STATES IF THEY HAD RECEIVED SIMILAR REQUESTS FROM THE U.S. AND INQUIRED AS TO WHAT THEIR RESPONSES WERE LIKELY TO BE.

3. ACCORDING TO EC PERMANENT DELEGATION SOURCES PRESENT FOR THE DISCUSSION, GENSCHER SAID THAT GERMANY PLANNED TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE U.S. REQUEST. (A GERMAN PERMANENT DELEGATION  
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SOURCE A PLEASE PROTECT - LATER SAID THAT THE GERMANS WERE

TALKING ABOUT A "VERY SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION" (BUT DID NOT MENTION ANY SPECIFIC FIGURES).

4. EC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT FOR THE DISCUSSION REPORTEDLY ASKED THE GERMANS IF THEY WERE THINKING IN TERMS OF COORDINATED BILATERAL CONTRIBUTIONS OR WERE PROPOSING A COMMUNITY PROGRAM OF AID FOR EGYPT. THE COMMISSION ALSO ASKED WHAT THE RELATIONSHIP OF THIS AID (HOWEVER GIVEN) WAS TO BE TO THAT PROPOSED FOR THE MASHRAQ COUNTRIES (WHICH OF COURSE INCLUDES EGYPT). THE GERMAN ANSWER, ACCORDING TO A UK SOURCE, UNCLEAR. THEY SAID THEY MERELY WANTED TO "SOUND OUT THEIR COLLEAGUES" IN THE CONTEXT OF EC NINE POLITICAL COOPERATION AND THAT THEY HAD NOT CONSIDERED THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE PROPOSAL TO THE MASHRAQ PACKAGE.

5. FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES INDICATED THAT HE WAS NOT OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSAL, NOTING THAT FRANCE STILL HAD AN UNUSED BALANCE UNDER ITS FINANCIAL PROTOCOL WITH EGYPT. SAUVAGNARGUES SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO GIVE A DEFINITIVE FRENCH ANSWER "AT THIS TIME."

6. THE DUTCH INDICATED THAT THEY PLANNED TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THE U.S. REQUEST, BUT REPORTEDLY MENTIONED NO AMOUNT.

7. ONE DELEGATION ASKED, IN VIEW OF THE EC'S EFFORTS TO KEEP A ROUGH BALANCE IN ITS AID EFFORTS IN THE MIDEAST, WHAT THE RESPONSE OF THE ISRAELIS TO SUCH A PROPOSAL WAS LIKELY TO BE. THE GERMANS REPORTEDLY RESPONDED THAT "ISRAEL WILL UNDERSTAND."

8. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE EC NINE WILL GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO THE U.S. REQUEST AT THE NEXT POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING IN ROME IN EARLY JULY. AT THAT TIME THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PROPOSAL FOR AID TO EGYPT AND THE EC'S EFFORTS UNDER THE GLOBAL MEDITERRANEAN POLICY WILL BE EXAMINED MORE FULLY.

9. IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD CLOSED THE DISCUSSION BY URGING HIS COLLEAGUES TO BEAR IN MIND THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE SUBJECT. GREENWALD  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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